



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor  
James W. Payne, Director

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**Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556**

## Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 10

**Meeting Date:** May 16, 2008

**Meeting Location:** Marion County DCS Region #10, Indianapolis

**Council Members Present:** Chair Rhonda Allen, MCDCS; Mary Ann West, MCDCS; D'Andrea Abdullah, MCDCS; Susie Kennedy, MCDCS; Judge Beth Jansen, Marion Superior Court- Juvenile Division; Maribryan McGeney, MCDCS.

**Council Members Absent:** Judge Marilyn Moores and Judge Diana Burleson, Marion Superior Court- Juvenile Division; Maggie Cooper, Foster parent; Taren Duncan, Adrana Johnson, and Peggy Surbey, MCDCS.

**Others In Attendance:** Duane Wade, Janice Klein, Children's Bureau; George Brenner, Gallahue Mental Health Center; Jeff Catlett, Resource; Michelle Gwaltney, Family Service of Central Indiana; Tim Hammond, IDTC; Shelvy Keglar, Jr., Midwest Psychological; Rev. Ralph Spears, St. Matthews Counseling; Vince Failla, CASSI; David Thompson, Salvation Army Harbor Light Center; Jacqueline Taylor, On the Spot Services; George Hurd, Resolute; Roxane Harcourt, Options; Carmen Young, Resource; Mike Frye, Columbus Behavioral Center; Lynne Wisneski, Resolute; Amy Moelhuman, Alliance/Mentor; Molly Price, Gibault Children's Services; Linda Lipscomb, Transitional Assistance Services; Tia Cavanaugh-Favors, Children's Campus; Angela Reid- Brown, MCDCS; Brant Ping and Jodi Stuck, Marion County Superior Court- Child and Adolescent Placement Project

### Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Called to Order at:** 9:10 a.m.



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## **I. Call the Meeting to Order**

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

- a) Minutes from the April 18, 2008 meeting were approved by the Council.
- b) Minutes will be available on the DCS website. The minutes will be put on the website after Regional Service Council approves the minutes.

## **III. Old Business**

### **a) Day Care Contract**

- i. Janice Klein and Duane Wade presented for Children's Bureau. Children's Bureau is requesting an extension of the contract until the end of Dec. 31, 2008. They are requesting to serve infants rather than the older youth (4,5, and 6 year olds) due to there being a need. Children's Bureau is also requesting \$20,400 to be spread out over six months which is \$3,400 a month. Reason for increase is because baby supplies and increase in staff to serve more babies. Children's Bureau stated that they would not be taking 4,5, and 6 year olds at all. Average daily census is 10-12 kids. Currently they can only serve 3 infants. There is always a need for infants and they are always full with infants and have openings for older youth. McGeney made a motion to approve the \$20,400 increase and to serve only infants. This would extend until Dec. 31, 2008. Abdullah 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Council approves the proposal.

### **b) Options Comprehensive Day Program, Resource Comprehensive Day Program, Resolute Comprehensive Day Program**

- i. Reid-Brown stated that Central office was okay with using expenditure forms to be able to use this program. Allen stated that these programs are needed so we will move forward with these programs.

### **c) Resource Community Based Services/Cornerstone Program Proposal**

- i. Reid-Brown stated that Central office was okay with using expenditure forms to be able to use this program. Allen stated that these programs are needed so we will move forward with these programs.

### **d) Transitional Assistance Services (TAS)**



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- i. A meeting will be set up with TAS to discuss this program. There is no update on this.

**e) CTP Contract Situation**

- i. This contract will be extended until Dec. 31, 2008. This service will be one that will have to submit a proposal to the State so services can continue after Jan. 1, 2009.

**f) Drug and Alcohol Proposal Update**

- i. West reported that last meeting the Council approved to move forward with negotiations. Since then, West stated since the State will be overseeing all services, they will be asking all providers to submit a proposal to the State in June or July. There will be State service standards rather than County service standards. West presented to cancel the county Drug and Alcohol RFP, extend current contracts to Dec. 31, 2008 and then beginning in Jan. the providers can make the necessary changes to meet the requirements that the State is asking. The State standards will be much broader and allow agencies to be more flexible in the services that they offer. Abdullah made a motion to withdraw the RFP for the Drug and Alcohol RFP and extend their contracts until Dec. 31, 2008. Jansen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Council approved the motion.

**IV. New Business**

**a) Damar PASS Program**

- i. The contract expired end of March. McGeney made the motion to extend the contract Kennedy 2<sup>nd</sup> this. Council approved the motion.

**b) Options Specialized Scattered Sites Program**

- i. The contract expires this month. McGeney made the motion to extend the contract Kennedy 2<sup>nd</sup> this. Council approved the motion.

**c) 2009-2011 Regional Services for Child Welfare Request for Proposals Recommendation**

- i. West distributed a list of agencies that bid on each of the services and their scores. These agencies will have to submit proposals again to the State in order to continue for Jan. 1, 2009. Due to the complexity and magnitude of services in the RFP, definitions are provided in the minutes of each of the services and attached are the list of providers that were selected.
- ii. **Family Centered Services**



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1. Home-based Family Centered Casework
  - a. Provision of home based casework services for multi-problem and/or dysfunctional families provided in the family's home. Home based casework is also available for pre-adoption and post-adoption services for adoptive families at risk or in crisis.
2. Home-based Family Centered Therapy
  - a. Provision of structured, goal-oriented, time-limited therapy in the natural environment of families who need assistance recovering from physical, sexual, emotional abuse, and neglect. Other issues, including substance abuse, mental illness, personality/behavior disorder, developmental disability, dysfunctional family of origin, and current family dysfunction, may be addressed in the course of treating the abuse/neglect.
3. **Intensive Family Preservation Services**
  - a. Intensive home based family preservation is seen as part of an array of home based services provided for children and families. The primary function of intensive family preservation is to engage the child (ren) and family, to take action to prevent removal of the child (ren), to increase safety, and to improve family functioning. This is a categorical program able to help only one segment of the total range of families and children in need of support. The service is designed to offer short-term, crisis intervention; intense, family centered educational services within a continuum of care. The primary treatment emphasis is teaching skills to all family members, so that the family can learn to function more successfully on their own.
4. **Intensive Family Reunification Services**
  - a. Intensive home based family reunification is seen within an array of home based services provided for children and



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families to help them in the reunification process. Intensive reunification service is a short term, intense, crisis intervention utilized if after the child (ren) has been returned home, the child and family are demonstrating difficulties of such magnitude that without intensive crisis intervention the reunification will be jeopardized.

- b. Reunification is not a single event, it is a process which often calls for many forms of service. Forms of service might include home based services to prepare the child and family for reunification, or home based casework during the first months of the child returning home, or home based therapy. Intensive services are an example of a type of home based service to help children and families throughout the reunification process. Intensive reunification is a categorical program able to help only one segment of the total range of families and children in need of support.

5. McGeney made a motion to approve Adult and Child, Dockside, Family Interventions, LCFS, Midwest, and Children's Bureau to offer Family Centered Services. Abdullah 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Council approved.

iii. **Other**

**1. Parent Education (Midtown)**

- a. Parenting education is the provision of structured, parenting skill development experiences.

**2. Parenting Assessments (Midwest)**

- a. Parenting/family functioning assessment must include an interview with the adults and children being assessed in their current environment

**3. Substance abuse treatment and monitoring**

- a. There is no recommendation at this time.

**4. Visitation/Facilitation services (Midwest and Children's Bureau)**



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- a. Visit facilitation will be provided between parents/children and/or siblings only who have been separated due to a substantiated allegation of abuse or neglect. Visitation allows the child an opportunity to reconnect and reestablish the parent/child/sibling relationship in a safe environment.

**5. Sex offender Treatment for offenders and victims**

- a. Risk and needs assessment for sexual offenders: (emergency and non-emergency)
- b. Risk and needs assessment for victim sex abuse assessment (emergency and non-emergency)
- c. Containment Teams for offenders -Traditional supervision practices do not adequately address the unique challenges and risks that sexually maladaptive youth pose to the community. Therefore it is expected that the provider will establish a “network” of family members, friends, teachers, coaches and any other community members or professionals who are committed to the success of the youth, to provide intensive monitoring of the youth in the home, school and community. This monitoring will occur 24 hours a day while the youth receives treatment.
- d. Treatment must include individual, group and family components for both sex offenders and victims of sex abuse
- e. No proposals were submitted for these services.

**6. The CHINS Parent Support Worker (CPSW)**

- a. Provide support services to parents who have children in foster care, this includes absent parents, and parents whose children were previously in foster care and remain a CHINS.
- b. There is no recommendation at this time.

**7. Individual and Family Counseling (Midtown)**

- a. Provision of structured, goal-oriented therapy on the issues related to the referral for family members who need assistance recovering from physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect.



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**8. Diagnostic/Assessment services (Midwest)**

- a. Diagnostic and assessment services will be provided as requested by the DCS for parents, other family members, and children due to the intervention of Child Protective Services because of alleged physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect and/or the removal of children from the care and control of their parents.

**9. Functional Family Therapy (Midtown)**

- a. Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is an empirically-grounded, family-based intervention program for acting-out youth between 11-18, whose problems range from conduct disorder to alcohol/ substance abuse, and their families.

10. McGeney made a motion to approve the services and providers for the “other services” listed above. Kennedy 2<sup>nd</sup> this motion. Council approved those providers.

- iv. All gaps will be filled in by the second wave of contracts.
- v. If there is a county contract that does not fit with what the State is recommending then Director Payne and a committee will review the program/service and make a determination whether or not this service will continue. This will be “wave 3” which should take place in August.
- vi. Work is also being done on the Master Residential Contract.
- vii. There will be an expenditure process but this will look a lot different too. There will still be a mechanism to pay for miscellaneous items.
- viii. If agencies are interested in viewing their scores then they should contact Peggy McCoy.
- ix. Mary Ann West will make sure that all current county contractors will receive an email stating when they can submit proposals to the State for wave 2. Also you can visit [www.in.gov/dcs](http://www.in.gov/dcs). State Standards have already been developed.

**x. Adoption Services**

**1. Child Preparation- Bethany and Children’s Bureau**

- a. This preparation is to assist the local Department of Child Services (DCS) in assessing the adoption readiness of children in the custody of the State of Indiana.



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**2. Family Preparation- Bethany and Children's Bureau**

- a. Preparation of the foster/adoptive/kinship home study for prospective families should follow the outline provided by the referring DCS from the State Child Welfare Manual.

**3. Pre/Post Placement Adoption**

- a. **Respite care for adoptive families** Is to be provided in a licensed foster home. (Adult and Child and Villages)
- b. **Home-based services** Includes face to face individual and/or group counseling. (Children's Bureau and Bethany)
- c. **Support group services** Should be provided no less than monthly and may be provided as often as weekly. These groups may serve families who provide foster/ kinship care, waiting adoptive families, families who have adopted, children who are in the adoption process and/or children who have been adopted. (Children's Bureau and Whites)

**4. Step-Parent Adoption Studies and Custody Studies (Bethany, Children's Bureau, and Villages)**

- a. Step-parent adoption home studies and custody studies are required for the court to make decisions in these very important situations. These studies require information-gathering and evaluation of the family and home environment.

- 5. Kennedy made a motion to accept the agencies that bid on adoption services. McGeney 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Council approved.

**xi. Foster parent Services**

**1. FAKT Training (Coordinator Services)**

- a. The State of Indiana intends to contract with providers throughout the state to provide pre-service training for prospective families living in the State of Indiana. These families will be foster, adoptive or kinship families for children under the care and supervision of a local Department of Child Services (DCS) or under the care and supervision of another State Agency comparable to DCS. This training will also include in-service training,



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Adoption/Permanency, and First Aid/CPR/UP requirements.

**2. Foster Family Support Services**

- a. The Foster Family Support Coordinator (FFSC) will provide support services to local foster parents through a monthly or bi-monthly support group at the local DCS office which may include at least one training hour per meeting and bi-weekly phone contact.

**3. Foster Home Studies**

- a. This is an information-gathering and evaluation of the family and home environment and making recommendations to DCS, provide foster home licensing studies, and or updates/relicensing studies.
4. Kennedy made motion to approve Children's Bureau and Villages to provide FAKT training, Villages to provide Foster Family Support Services, and Villages, Children's Bureau, and Protect our Children to provide Foster Home studies, Jansen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Council approved the motion.

**xii. Chafee IL**

**1. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (Adult and Child, Children's Bureau, and Villages)**

- a. Independent living (IL) services that consist of a series of developmental activities that provide opportunities for young people to gain the skills required to live healthy, productive, and responsible lives as self-sufficient adults. Independent living services should be seen as a service to young people that will help them transition to adulthood, regardless of whether they end up on their own, are adopted, or live in another permanent living arrangement.

**2. Mentoring/Lifelong Connections (Adult and Child)**

- a. a mentoring component in which youth are matched with screened and trained adults who provide guidance, support, encouragement, listening, coaching, education, informal counseling and role-modeling for the youth. These mentors



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may also assist the youth in faith-based activities, recreation and sports, creative pursuits, and participation in civic service and community events.

3. Kennedy made a motion to approve Adult and Child, Children's Bureau, and the Villages, Jansen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Council approved.

**d) Rev. Spears/St. Matthews home-based/Faith-based Proposal Appeal**

- i. Rev. Spears to present on St. Matthews. Spears stated that he was not aware that the RFP did not come out for 5 weeks. He found out by way of an email that went out to all providers highlighting questions from all providers regarding the RFP. He had very little time to put together a proposal. Spears submitted a proposal and it was denied by the Selection Committee. Recently, Spears has reviews the accepted proposals and he did notice some differences. Spears stated that he has been a faith-based provider for 10 years and has provided an array of services to his families. It is an outreach that is part of his congregation. Spears is asking the Council to reconsider his proposal so that St. Matthews can provide home-based counseling. West stated that St. Matthews does provide good service however in the proposal it didn't contain all the requirements stated in the RFP. Jansen believes that he does provide an array of services. Abdullah asked if the selection committee would have to consider all providers not chosen if we were to accept St. Matthews as a provider. Ping and Reid-Brown stated that the Selection committee would have to go back and review all the proposals not chosen.
- ii. There was no motion to approve or deny St. Matthews appeal. Council advised Spears to submit a proposal for "wave 2" and visit the State DCS website.

**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:** June 27, 9:00 a.m. This will be held at the Marion County DCS Region 10.

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 10:45 a.m.



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